

**PATENT APPLICATION  
DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

**ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 304070.01****MS DOCKET NO. MSFT-2832**

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence/post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name;

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled: **B-TREE COMPRESSION USING NORMALIZED INDEX KEYS**

the specification of which is filed herewith unless the following box is checked:

☐ was filed on \_\_\_\_\_ as US Application Serial No. or PCT International Application  
Number \_\_\_\_\_ and was amended on \_\_\_\_\_ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understood the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above. I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56.

**Foreign Application(s) and/or Claim of Foreign Priority**

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code Section 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor(s) certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor(s) certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NUMBER	DATE FILED	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
			YES: _____ NO: _____
			YES: _____ NO: _____

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:**

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) associated with



**23377**

and

David Bartley Eppenauer Reg. No. 35,499	Martin L. Shively Reg. No. 33,553	Ronald O. Zink Reg. No. 35,744	Patricia E. Bornes Reg. No. 37,038
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to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

MS DOCKET NO. MSFT-2832

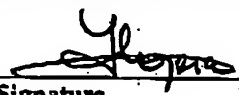
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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Inventor's Signature12/23/2003  
Date